



FACTORS EFFECTING HER EDUCATION

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ABSTRACT

This paper examines the factors effecting girl education. Women education plays a vital role in the development of the country. It helps in improving the quality of life at home and outside. Educating a girl is one of the best investments her family, community, and country can make. The development of any nation requires the collective efforts of its citizens. More importantly, to achieve national development, both male and female members of the society need to be carried along (Alumode, 2000).

KEYWORDS: Education, women, parents, teachers, government, factors.

INTRODUCTION

Education is a right and an essential tool for achieving the goals of equality, development and peace. In spite of all these girls are denied this right. The factors which interplay and affect female education are limitless as family size, household income, parents' education, school, teachers, peers, govt. all contribute substantially to poor female enrollment in school. Various other factors as the health factor, though partly hidden and indirect is also a very significant one. Out of school factors also play a big role in female education as long distances from school, gender discrimination, cultural and socio-economic factors etc. Girls miss school when there are chores to be done at home. Girls are taken out of school when they mature to prepare them for marriage or to help supplement the family income by selling, farming or performing other money earning activities (Acato 2006).

There are and there will always be factors influencing girl education; but many problems can be solved by examining them closely.

IMPORTANCE OF GIRL EDUCATION

"If you educate a man you educate an individual, however, if you educate a woman you educate a whole family. Women empowered means mother India empowered". PT. JAWAHARLAL NEHRU

A good quality education can be life-changing. Women are at the heart of most societies. Their education influence the coming generation as we know that mother is the first teacher of the child. It is well known that if we educate a girl we educate the whole family. Mothers are very influential people in children's lives. Education has a profound effect on women's ability to claim rights and achieve status in society.

Education opens various doors of opportunities for women. Educated girls or women are healthier—and they have healthier children. More educated mothers have more educated children, especially daughters. Educated women not only tend to promote education of their girl children, but also can provide better guidance to all their children.

Undoubtedly education will make girls good housewives; educated girls can assist their parents financially. Education produces the work force needed to keep the wheel of the economy turning. Education contributes to national development. Education of women has a profound effect on national development as lack of their education has been linked to low birth rate, poor health and high mortality rates in children, high fertility rates, poor family nutrition, low life expectancy, poor sanitation and high illiteracy rates. The lack of education is the root cause for women's exploitation and negligence.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

To provide sound analysis of the problems acting as barriers in girl education

To empower women

To make girls' education affordable

To strengthen community

PARENTS

Kroth (1981) in his study states there are two important persons in any child's educational life. One is his/her parents while the other one is the professional of that institute.

Parents' positive attitude towards their girl's education is important in her academic achievement. Optimistic attitude towards education enhances parental involvement in their girl's present and future studies. Low socio economic status of the parent's affects their attitude towards their girl's. Turnbull (1983) has identified four basic parental roles- parents as educational decision makers; parents as parents; parents as teachers and parents as advocates.

Earlier education of girls was considered as wastage of time and money but today the importance and the outcomes of girls' education are highly appreciated. Today's scenario has changed, even if the parents are from rural areas they understand the importance of girls' education.

SCHOOL

When a girl is enrolled in a school parents have some questions in their minds as - is a school within a reasonable distance; does it have proper facilities for girls; is it a safe environment and commute; is it free of violence? If not, parents are unlikely to ever send their daughter to school. These challenges are recurrent and constitute additional hurdles. Girls may face a poor and hostile school environment. Physical abuse and abduction are not only a major violation of girls' basic human rights; they also present a major practical constraint in getting to school. Violence against girls and women has been identified as a key barrier to girls' education. The school itself can have a positive or negative influence. For instance, if the child dislikes the school they may dislike education in general which could cause lasting problems. Not every school is for every child. Not every method of learning works for every child. Some need one on one help. Others thrive best in a class room full of children. Some need a structured environment and some need a creatively free environment.

TEACHERS

Skilled staff with the right knowledge, understanding and experience is required in order for government to implement successful plans for girls' education. The staff needs to ensure access for girls from all backgrounds, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion etc. Is there a teacher? Are they skilled? Do they have appropriate teaching materials? Is it a female teacher? If not, girls may not learn as much at school and drop out. The attitudes of teachers can influence children. Most people have experienced a teacher who loved their subject and inspired their students and many have come across teachers who are ineffectual and uninteresting.

MONEY

Money is an important factor in education. A family which is struggling with everyday needs does not have the money to take the children out and give them experiences, nor can they buy all the supplies the child needs. Girls are pulled out of school when the family income dictates that all children cannot be educated.

PEERS

Peers are another factor in gaining education. Girls could be distracted by the values of the peers away from education. It is important for parents to know the friends of their kids and help their children navigate through any problems (Yusuf 2008). Parents can help by listening to their child and find out why there seems to be a disinterest in learning or a dislike for the school. Pay attention to

what is the real issue hindering the child's education and a solution will become more obvious (Warou, 2006).

GOVERNMENT

Little has been achieved in the area of women empowerment

After 70 years of independence, there are so many uneducated women in India it means that the policies made by government were not appropriate. Government should make policies and plans that reduce the cost of education for poor families. Though now government is aware of the benefits of women education and we should support a lot of government efforts. Government is doing a lot

- by providing mid day meal
- by providing free education
- by providing school dress and books
- by providing various incentives
- by creating better learning environments for girls through the provision of separate toilets
- by employing more female teachers.

These efforts have important impact on enrollment of girls at schools.

CONCLUSION

Women even still live in a male-dominated world. But an emerging reality today is that more and more women are getting educated thus narrowing the gap between them and the men. And if this trend continues with the same momentum, it will take only a few years for the women to close the gap in education. More women acquire education their percentage of the manpower resources of the nation increases. Therefore, more women are going to acquire the mental skill and capability necessary for work life. Thus, "the relationships between family, education and work are major influences on women's futures and on the patterns of incentives and costs facing families in deciding to send girls to school" (EFA Global Monitoring Report, 2003/2004).

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